

# THE BRANDING IRON.

DEVOTED TO INDIAN AND STOCK NEWS.

VOL. I. NO. 4.

ATOKA, INDIAN TERRITORY, MARCH 15, 1884.

\$1.50 PER YEAR.

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Branding Iron,

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CHOCTAW NATION.

L. H. & R. M. ROBERTS, PROPRIETORS.  
ATOKA, I. T., MARCH 8, 1884.

Rates for Advertising.

One Column, one year, \$150.00.  
One Square, one year, \$75.00.  
One Square, one month, \$1.50.  
Ten lines of Brevier constitutes a square.  
Locals, 10 Cents per line, each subsequent insertion 5 Cents.  
Stock Brands published in the BRANDING IRON and the INDIAN JOURNAL for \$5.00 per year.

Choctaw Ceded Lands.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 4.—In the case of the Choctaw Nation of Indians vs. the United States, where in the former seek to recover a balance due them on ceded lands in Mississippi, afterwards surrendered to the whites, the demurrer of the United States was to-day overruled in the Court of Claims.

Fort Smith is rejoicing over the fact that the U. S. Senate on Monday last passed the bill making appropriations for public buildings, which includes \$100,000 for Ft. Smith for the erection of a U. S. Court house, post-office and other public offices. But the Elevator evidently is uneasy about the U. S. court as will be seen by the following:

"If, as we understand is the case, Texas is endeavoring to cut off from the jurisdiction of this court here, the territory of the south part of the Choctaw Nation and all the Chickasaw Nation to unite with five of the northern counties of Texas and form a federal court territory, with Denison the seat of the court, it might be well for the citizens here to bestir themselves, and ask special attention of our Senators and members of Congress to prevent the same. We have no objection to releasing all territory west of the civilized tribes, but should certainly object strenuously to giving any portion of them up to a new district."

Reports from Texas indicate more life in the cattle market there. Ranchmen are beginning to concede a little and drovers have commenced to take hold. Most trades are on private terms, but from what can be learned prices are about fifty cents off of last year's. Within the past few weeks it is estimated 50,000 cattle have been contracted for, and the drive, it is thought, will be fully as large as '83. Hall brothers contracted 1,500 western cattle to be delivered on their range in southern Colorado, paying \$16 for ones, \$24 for dry cows and two-year-old heifers, and \$34.50 for cows with calves. Pryor Brothers have contracted 2,000 ones and twos at \$16 and \$20. R. G. Head and Mark Withers to Round, Wilson & Brush 5,500 ones, 2,000 twos, and 1,000 ones, and D. R. Fant and J. F. Ellison to Swan Bros. & Co., to be delivered in Cheyenne, Wyoming, 22,000 ones, twos, and threes, at \$20 for the twos, and \$24 for the threes; the ones on private terms.—[L. S. Record.

U. S. COURT PROCEEDINGS.

Julius C. Fulson Convicted of Manslaughter.

At the close of our last report the trial of Julius C. Fulson, a prominent citizen of the Choctaw country, charged with murder, was in progress. The case was given to the jury late Monday evening last and they remained out until Tuesday afternoon, when they returned a verdict of manslaughter, and Mr. Fulson was committed to jail. The defendant is a man of excellent appearance, about fifty-five years of age, and has held many responsible positions in the Territory during his time. He has a good education, having been educated at Harvard University. His son, who is at this time clerk of the Choctaw Senate, was here at the trial, and was very much surprised at its termination, having every reason to believe his father would be acquitted. A motion for a new hearing will be made in due time, which we hope the court will see proper to grant.

Gabe Rogers pleaded guilty to introducing; sentenced to thirty days in jail and fined \$25.

George Glass, for introducing and selling; forty-five days in jail and fined \$120.

A jury acquitted Leonard Aimes, who was charged with larceny.

Nolle pros. was entered by district attorney in a case of introducing against Ben Love alias Ben Brown. Wm. Grigsby pleaded guilty to introducing; one hour in jail and fined \$5.

W. J. Freeman, violating revenue law; entered plea of guilty and was fined \$20.

The case of Wm. Moore, charged with manslaughter, is occupying the attention of the court as we go to press.

CADDO, March 12, 1884.

Editor Branding Iron:

Mr. B. Hampton has bought the Railroad hotel and is doing business in a first-class manner.

Mr. C. McCoy is putting an addition of twenty-four feet on his store, and other improvements of various kinds.

Major Cummings, of Sherman, has rented the Oil Springs for a number of years and is now going to work to improve the place in grand style.

Mr. George Galle is at his old stand again. Call and see him.

There was a nice dance at B. Hampton's hotel last Friday. A couple of young ladies from Atoka were present.

The weather is fine and the farmers are breaking their land, and as soon as the moon closes his eyes they will go to planting.

Mr. Ainsworth went to St. Louis last Sunday on a business trip.

Joel Nall has gone to Hot Springs. Mr. Nall is suffering with rheumatism.

FLUPE.

A Trip to McAlester.

Saturday morning found an Atoka scribe aboard the north-bound passenger train destined for McAlester. The day was cold and raw and the appearance of things was not particularly inviting to a stranger, but we determined to see the place and as far as possible fulfill our mission.

We found Rev. A. Frank Ross very sick with pneumonia; the Sunday school superintendent was sick also. Rev. J. P. Ash came on the train from Muskogee, but our swallow doesn't make a summer, nor can two preachers make a Sunday school institute. Saturday evening and Sunday morning we were more successful however, and the results of the meeting quite gratifying. McAlester is a good town and there are numbers of excellent people there, some of whom we had the pleasure of becoming acquainted with and we shall remember them for their kind reception and cordial hospitality. We met several who had lived in Atoka and to be prepared for their questions we had armed ourselves with several copies of the BRANDING IRON, and no doubt you will hear from them for they will all want the news.

ATOKA, March 12.

Lehigh Lacoules.

LEHIGH, I. T., March 14.

We don't often write, but with an effort we will give you a few items.

Our little city is building up and from present prospects we will have as large and important a place as can be found in the Territory....The A. C. & M. Co., under whose supervision the mine is being operated, it is reported are contemplating a new shaft to be known as No. 4....The new stock yards are being finished up by placing several loads of slack in them as a precaution against mud in rainy times. They are arranged for loading two cars at once....Mr. Rennie, of White Bend, is now waiting on the outskirts of town with twenty-three carloads of beef cattle to be shipped to-night. Also Mr. McClure, of Atoka, is preparing to send out seven carloads of boys on Saturday night....Mr. Thompson, as agent for the coal company, holds the office down and distributes the contents of the "Lehigh pouch," thus rendering himself a benefactor to the public....Miss Sims, our efficient schoolmistress, had the misfortune to be thrown from her horse on Wednesday evening last, but happily was not injured to any extent beyond the loss of the pony and saddle. The pony, it seems, did not recognize her right to use the rod of correction and consequently "struck," as the boys say. The last heard of him was at ten o'clock the same evening journeying toward the east....Madam Rumor has it that some time in the near future a wedding is to take place. Who the parties concerned are seems to be a mystery. By the way, I would like to ask a question, viz: If a man catches trout out a brook what would you call him?

"OCCASIONAL."

Who killed the largest number of chickens? Hamlet's uncle did "murder most foul."

School Echoes.

Enoch A. File is our new scholar. He comes from Florence, Kansas.

The new class did not get their books in time to begin bookkeeping this week. Friday morning will be devoted to English literature in the future.

The class in word analysis is digging pretty thoroughly now among the Latin roots and is destined to come out of the struggle laden with spoils.

There are several new scholars expected next week, some from a distance.

The spelling school Tuesday evening was a decided success. Those who took part wrestled with some of the toughest words and got floored. The words will come out ahead, somehow.

The writing divisions are awaiting anxiously the decision of the judges who are to decide the question, who shall have the gold pen. It will be decided this week, perhaps.

The following pupils have been neither absent nor tardy during the month of February:

"A" Grade—Hugo Haas, Alice Hebert and Emmaretta Sullivan.

"B" Grade—Lizzie Wassen, Lizzie Longwith, Marcellus Lorden, Robert E. Long and Roy Henderson.

The following have attained an average standing of nine or above:

"A" Grade—Hugo Haas, Alice Hebert, Czarina Hebert, Alex. Haas, Jasper Inge, Emmaretta Sullivan, Dora Scratch, Flora Owen, Debbie Brown, Nolle Brown and Charles Harp.

"B" Grade—John Frinzel, Frank Longwith, Eva Standley, Carrie Haas, May Dillon, Etta Dillon and Zeno Martin.

Nelson Heard From.

NELSON, I. T., Feb. 29, 1884.

EDITOR BRANDING IRON:

Your BRANDING IRON without a head is before me. Well pleased with all but the name, why did you not call it the Choctaw Advocate or Vindicator, or something like that? Well, let it go. Our town, like the rest of the little towns, has been raised in; we could hardly get wood or do anything for about one week. Boggy's hands were too shallow to hold all the wood and it ran out over the swamp hunting stock, and from all accounts was very successful.

One day last week the orphan boys of Spencer passed through our town in charge of Capt. Dixon Willis, Sheriff of Cedar county, on their way to Armstrong Academy. Sheriff J. W. Everidge, of Kiamichi county, being in town at the time joined the procession with your correspondent, and saw the boys safely to the west bank of the Boggy.

Capt. Thompson Nowahaya is in town buying farming tools and cotton seed. The Captain, although a full-blood Indian, is one of the live farmers of Kiamichi county.

Our blacksmith, Ben. Rich, dropped his hammer to-day and told his wife he would plant some "ash taters" (Irish potatoes) if that old plow was never fixed. Well, he harnessed up his charger, Patrick, and he and his boy, Tub, did plant them "taters." Yours, etc., ANSON.

The Editor was In.

"Is the editor in?" asked a wry-faced man, who stood six feet and two inches in his socks, of the office boy of a Bloomington newspaper.

"I do not know," said the boy, "I'll ask him." He was gone about ten minutes, when he returned, smiling blandly, and said: "I guess he's in. He's in if you are the man he thinks you are. Is your name Smithers?"

"Yes, my name is Smithers, and I reckon he won't be in, the cowardly puppy, when he knows that Jake Smithers is after him."

"So you're Smithers, are you?" said the boy.

"Yes, I'm Smithers. The same Smithers that the gam-started editor called a ham in this morning's paper. I've come to clean out the shop and thresh that editor till he won't know himself from a stuck pig. I reckon the editor ain't in now, is he?"

"Oh, yes! I'll show you up to his room in a minute. He told me to ask you if you was Smithers, and if you was, to show you up. When I left the room he had two revolvers, a ten pound weight and a sword lying on his desk, and he told me to show you the door to his room right away, and to get behind the base-burner for safety as soon as you went in. Right this way, sir. The editor's in, and he is anxious to see you."

"Well, you tell the editor that I said he might go to Chicago, if he wants to. I ain't got no time to fool away on him." And Smithers hurried to catch the train.

J. W. Owens,

Atoka, Indian Ter.,

Harness and Saddle Maker,

AND DEALER IN

Harness, Side and Mens' Saddles, Leggings, Collars, Whips.

And Everything in Our Line. Any Kind of Saddle, Including "TEXAS" and "CALIFORNIA," or

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GENERAL GROCERIES

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IND. TER.

JULIUS HAAS

Will pay the

HIGHEST CASH MARKET PRICE

For

Hides, Furs, Wool, Deerskins, &c.

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General -- Merchandise.

We will sell good goods for CASH as cheap as any store in the Territory. A large lot of

Rough and Dressed Lumber, Shingles, &c., Always on Hand. Best Steam Gin in the country, with Planer and Table Saw attached.

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